

Celebrating the restoration

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May 21, 2004

Father & Sons outing

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Introduction

- Celebrating the restoration of the Priesthood
 - Aaronic & Melchizadek
 - Aaronic May 15, 1829
 - Melchizadek
 - Don't have a documented exact date
 - President Hinckley
"Evidence points to the fact it was likely late May or June 1829" (175th
Anniversary of the Restoration of the Priesthood, May 16, 2004)

Priesthood Line of Authority

- Intrigued by President Hinckley's citing his line of authority at the anniversary broadcast
 - David O McKay
 - Joseph F Smith
 - Brigham Young
 - 3 witnesses (Oliver Cowdery, David Whitmer, and Martin Harris)
 - Joseph Smith & Oliver Cowdery
 - Peter, James & John
 - Jesus Christ
- President Hinckley
"It has similarly come to you. Each of you brethren who holds this priesthood has also received it in a direct line from the bestowal made by Peter, James and John. Its origin is not shrouded in the foggy mists of history" (175th
Anniversary of the Restoration of the Priesthood, May 16, 2004)
- Looked up mine
- Here is Cory's:

- Note Father to Son

Aaronic Priesthood Restoration

- Joseph Smith 1:68-69

"We still continued the work of translation, when, in the ensuing month (May, 1829), we on a certain day went into the woods to pray and inquire of the Lord respecting baptism for the remission of sins, that we found mentioned in the translation of the plates. While we were thus employed, praying and calling upon the Lord, a messenger from heaven descended in a cloud of light, and having laid his hands upon us, he ordained us, saying:

Upon you my fellow servants, in the name of Messiah, I confer the Priesthood of Aaron, which holds the keys of the ministering of angels, and of the gospel of repentance, and of baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; and this shall never be taken again from the earth until the sons of Levi do offer again an offering unto the Lord in righteousness."

- Oliver Cowdery

"On a sudden, as from the midst of eternity, the voice of the Redeemer spake peace to us. While the veil was parted and the angel of God came down clothed with glory, and delivered the anxiously looked for message, and the keys of the gospel of repentance. What joy! What wonder! What amazement!

...

I shall not attempt to paint to you the feelings of this heart, nor the majestic beauty and glory which surrounded us on this occasion; but you will believe me when I say, that earth, nor men, with the eloquence of time, cannot begin to clothe language in as interesting and sublime a manner as this holy personage. No; nor has this earth power to give the joy, to bestow the peace, or comprehend the wisdom which was contained in each sentence as they were delivered by the power of the Holy Spirit! " (Times and Seasons, 1 November 1840, 201.)

Importance of the Aaronic Priesthood

- 300K young men
- Ministering of Angels
- Gospel of Repentance
- Baptism by immersion for remission of sins

Wilford Woodruff

"I merely wish to say that I went out as a priest, and my companion as an

elder, and we traveled thousands of miles, and had many things manifested to us. I desire to impress upon you the fact that it does not make any difference whether a man is a priest or an apostle, if he magnifies his calling. A priest holds the key of the ministering of angels. Never in my life, as an apostle, as a seventy, or as an elder, have I ever had more of the protection of the Lord than while holding the office as a priest. The Lord revealed to me by visions, by revelations, and by the Holy Spirit, many things that lay before me" (The Discourses of Wilford Woodruff, edited by G. Homer Durham, pg 300)

John the Baptist

- Luke 1:80
"And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel"
- John 3:4
"John had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins; and his meat was locusts and wild honey"
- John preached and baptized for about six months before he baptized Jesus.
- He then continued about six to nine months afterward until he was imprisoned by Herod Antipas.
 - During the imprisonment John was probably tortured, scourged (see Matt. 17:12-13), and bound with chains, for such was the ancient custom. (See Cunningham Geikie, *The Life and Words of Christ*, rev. ed., 2 vols., New York: D. Appleton and Co., 1894, 1:399; 2:515.)
 - After nine to twelve months in the dungeon, John was beheaded at the order of Herod, who in his lust for Salome, a dancing girl, had fallen prey to a murderous scheme of Herodias to destroy John. (See Mark 6:17-29.)
- Luke 7:24-28
"What went ye out into the wilderness for to see? A reed shaken with the wind?
But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment?
Behold, they which are gorgeously apparelled, and live delicately, are in kings' courts.
But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? Yea, I say unto you, and much more than a prophet.
This is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.
For I say unto you, *Among those that are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist*"

Joseph Smith

- John 3:4

"Joseph Smith, the Prophet and Seer of the Lord, has done more, save Jesus only, for the salvation of men in this world, than any other man that ever lived in it. In the short space of twenty years, he has brought forth the Book of Mormon, which he translated by the gift and power of God, and has been the means of publishing it on two continents; has sent the fulness of the everlasting gospel, which it contained, to the four quarters of the earth; has brought forth the revelations and commandments which compose this book of Doctrine and Covenants, and many other wise documents and instructions for the benefit of the children of men; gathered many thousands of the Latter-day Saints, founded a great city, and left a fame and name that cannot be slain. He lived great, and he died great in the eyes of God and his people; and like most of the Lord's anointed in ancient times, has sealed his mission and his works with his own blood"

Melchizedek Priesthood

- 1.3M men
- President Hinckley
"Endless are its powers, endless is its authority" (175th Anniversary of the Restoration of the Priesthood, May 16, 2004)
- Melchizedek Priesthood – Authority to:
 - Bestow the gift of the Holy Ghost
 - Bless the sick
 - Bless wife and children
 - Govern in the church and kingdom of God